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results obtained, in regard to pressure, temperature, humidity, precipitation, cloudiness and wind movement, will obviously be indispensable to those who are making a thorough study of the climatology of Peru. The distribution of the various stations, at different altitudes, including the famous Misti station (19,200 ft.), the highest in the world, and in the different climatic provinces, covers a wide range of meteorological phenomena, and throws light on many interesting points. To comment on these, even briefly, would unduly extend this notice. Dr. Hann has done American meteorology a distinct service in analyzing for us data originally secured through the financial support of an American benefactor, and by the splendid efforts of American scientists in Peru, viz.: Professor William H. Pickering and Professor Solon I. Bailey.

R. DEC. WARD.

**Across Papua.** Being an Account of a Voyage round, and a March across the Territory of Papua with the Royal Commission. By Colonel Kenneth Mackay. xvi and 192 pp., 40 plates from photographs, map and index. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1909. \$2.50.

Col. Mackay was chairman of the Commission sent by the Commonwealth of Australia to inquire into the conditions and methods of government of British New Guinea, now officially known as Papua. The Commission travelled through a large part of the Territory and its facilities for acquiring the best information were, naturally, of the best. The inquiry resulted in a report which is packed with valuable data.

The present book is given to a popular account of the territory as the author saw it. The reader gathers from it the general atmosphere of things, what the author has deduced from a study of details. He gets a general idea of the country, the adaptability of parts of it to produce trade commodities, the relations between the whites and blacks and the attitude of the natives towards the new régime, including labor. For the most part, the book treats, interestingly, of the Commission's wanderings in the New Guinea bush and the narrative is enlivened by many anecdotes and incidents.

The author found the natives, in a number of places, working well for the whites in the development of the rubber, cacao, copra, tobacco and other industries. He believes the missionaries are exerting a most helpful influence. They are proving that the blacks may be trained to produce good results in carpentry, joinery and other forms of skilled labor. Papua, also, is beginning to make war on the *anopheles* mosquito and marked improvement in health conditions is observed in some places. Col. Mackay has faith that Papua and her people will make progress and that the world will have use for their productions.

**Fifty Years in Constantinople and Recollections of Robert College.** By George Washburn, D.D., LL.D. xxxi and 317 pp., and Illustrations. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston and New York, 1909. \$3.

This book is much more than a history of the first forty years of Robert College. The events of the last fifty years, which led up to the recent revolution in Turkey, are summed up in the introductory chapter; and we are constantly reminded, while perusing this story of the vicissitudes and the development of Robert College, that it has a background of events and personalities that make it peculiar among all educational institutions. Dr. Washburn was, for many years,

closely associated with Robert College as director and president, and he writes from fullness of information of the ups and downs, the struggles, the trials and the triumph of this unique educational experiment.

The training and development of the physical, intellectual and moral powers of 2,500 boys of the East, so that these students, in the conspicuous places many of them have occupied, have long been recognized as representing a different type of manhood from that commonly seen in the Orient, is only one of the achievements of Robert College. It has revolutionized the policy of missionary societies with regard to education, and there are now many such institutions in different parts of the world. The college has also been influential in bringing about a less hostile state of feeling between the different races of the East, and it has had great success in winning the confidence of the surrounding Mohammedans. The author's fascinating story of the college is not cast in a precise historical vein, but is a record of personal recollections in which he speaks freely of events and personalities as they appeared to him.

**Les Civilisations de l'Afrique du Nord.** Berbères-Arabes-Turcs. Par Victor Piquet. ix and 392 pp. and 4 maps. Librairie Armand Colin, Paris, 1909. Fr. 4.

This book fills a need because it is the only work, in moderate compass, that gives the history of the northern part of Africa before the French occupation. Two or three learned works give much attention to various epochs of this history; and, at last, we have this little volume which concisely tells the whole story of the civilizations that succeeded one another in the large regions now known as Tunis, Algeria and Morocco. Broadly speaking, the complete history of North Africa should be divided into three parts: 1. The history of the peoples of Barbary (Lybians, Numidians and others) until the arrival of the Arabs; 2. The history of the Mohammedan governments until the establishment of the French; 3. The work of the French in North Africa. The first two periods are treated in this volume, and a part of the first period is considerably abridged because the history of the Roman rule in North Africa has been made well known in remarkable and standard works.

Many readers of this book will be especially impressed with the fact that, for many ages there was no political boundary dividing this wide home of the North African peoples. Frontiers cutting up the great area into different countries, is a comparatively modern and wholly artificial innovation. Even writers of to-day treat scientifically of the antiquities of Algeria without mentioning those of Tunis, which, nevertheless, was the cradle from which the successive civilizations of North Africa spread.

The work is based almost entirely upon the original Arabic chronicles, long extracts from which are given. The book is full of matter that is new even to the well read part of the public. It should be in every public library as the only work of the kind that has yet appeared and because it adequately treats its topic.

**Die Blütenpflanzen Afrikas.** Eine Anleitung zum afrikanischen Siphonogamen. Von Franz Thonner. xvi and 673 pp., 150 plates, map and index. Verlag von R. Friedländer & Sohn, Berlin, 1908. M. 10.

The author is an Austrian botanist. His recent field studies in his specialty have been carried on largely in the Congo basin. This large work, finely pro-